

DECISION LINE

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Congratulations to Newly Elected 2002-03 DSI Officers



PRESIDENT-ELECT
Barbara B. Flynn, Wake Forest University
(see photo)

TREASURER
Julie E. Kendall, Rutgers University

AT-LARGE VICE PRESIDENTS
Karen A. Brown, University of Washington, Bothell

Holly S. Lewis, The Pennsylvania State University
Cliff T. Ragsdale, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONALLY-ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT
Jinichiro Nakane, Waseda University

MIDWEST REGIONALLY-ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT
Byron J. Finch, Miami University of Ohio

NORTHEAST REGIONALLY-ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT
Susan E. Pariseau, Merrimack College

The tabulation of the ballots was conducted and audited by DATAMATX, Atlanta, Georgia. See page 22 for more information on the new officers. ■



PRESIDENT'S LETTER Many Changes to DSI

F. Robert Jacobs
Indiana University

My year as president of DSI has passed quickly. Many of you may not realize how much activity takes place at the board level for an organization like the Decision Sciences Institute. Over the past officer year, the full board met in April, November, and January to work on all the administrative details needed to manage DSI. The board of directors has accomplished much during the past year and in this letter, I would like to highlight the major items.

A major accomplishment was the selection of the editor for the *Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education*. The publications committee did a great job of soliciting proposals from individuals interested in editing the new journal. Professor Barbara Flynn of Wake Forest University has been selected as the initial editor. Professor Flynn has set up an office and is currently accepting manuscripts

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for review and possible publication. Current plans are to publish the first edition in January 2003.

A related and major accomplishment is the negotiation and signing of an agreement with Blackwell Publishing for publishing *Decision Sciences* and the *Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education*. *Decision Sciences*, which is carried in hard copy form in nearly 900 libraries worldwide, enjoys wide library circulation compared to other leading academic business journals. This has been accomplished through the diligent efforts our own home office

publishing staff. Late in 2000, the board began looking into the possibility of outsourcing the publication of the flagship *Decision Sciences* and our new *Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education*. The goal was to determine if costs could possibly be reduced and if the distribution of the journal could be made even more widespread. We were particularly interested in learning what the state of the art was for electronic publishing of the journal.

The board solicited proposals and was able to compare the offerings of all the major publishers of business-related aca-

demical journals. After much deliberation, the board decided that there were significant advantages to publishing our journals outside, particularly in the areas of distribution to library consortia and in the area of electronic publishing and indexing. The board decided to go with Blackwell Publishing, a leading company that currently publishes such prestigious journals as *The Journal of Finance* and *Econometrica*. The Institute still maintains full editorial control over the journals and also has control over the pricing of the journal to libraries.

See next page

Thanks to 2001-2002 Committee Chairs and Coordinators . . .

- **Belva J. Cooley**,
University of Montana-Missoula
Chair, Alpha Iota Delta Liaison Committee
- **Richard L. Jenson**,
Utah State University
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Regional Accounting Practices
- **Thomas W. Jones**,
University of Arkansas-Fayetteville
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee to Review Web-Based Submissions for the 2002 Annual Meeting
- **David A. Collier**,
Ohio State University
Chair, Case Studies Committee
- **Gary L. Ragatz**,
Michigan State University
Chair, Development Committee for Excellence in the Decision Sciences
- **Soumen Ghosh**,
Georgia Institute of Technology
Chair, Doctoral Student Affairs Committee
- **F. Robert Jacobs**,
Indiana University
Chair, Executive Committee/Strategic Planning Committee
- **Paul C. Nutt**,
The Ohio State University
Chair, Fellows Committee
- **Subhashish (Sub) Samaddar**,
Georgia State University
Chair, Information Technology Committee
- **Hope M. Baker**,
Kennesaw State University
Chair, Innovative Education Committee
- **Barbara B. Flynn**,
Wake Forest University
Chair, Investment Advisory Committee
- **Scott M. Shafer**,
Wake Forest University
Chair, Member Services Committee
- **Michael J. Showalter**,
Florida State University
Chair, Nominating Committee
- **Madeleine Pullman**,
London School of Business
Chair, Programs and Meetings Committee
- **Barbara B. Flynn**,
Wake Forest University
Chair, Publications Committee
- **Thomas W. Jones**,
University of Arkansas-Fayetteville
Chair, Regional Activities Committee
- **Robert E. Markland**,
University of South Carolina
Chair, Strategic Planning for International Affairs Committee

. . . and Thanks to 2002 Outgoing Board Members.

- **Michael J. Showalter**
Florida State University
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- **Janelle Heineke**
Boston University
Vice President
- **Christine T. Kydd**
University of Delaware
Vice President
- **Paul Mangiameli**
University of Rhode Island
Vice President
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Wake Forest University
Treasurer
- **James C. Hershauer**
Arizona State University
Vice President
- **Tien-Sheng (T.S.) Lee**
Chinese University of Hong Kong
Vice President
- **Richard J. Penlesky**
Bowling Green State University
Vice President

Other major changes have occurred in the home office, run by our Executive Director Carol Latta. The home office has a new membership information system that allows the tracking of DSI members, on-line queries of information, and on-line registration for the annual meeting. Getting this new system operational has required some major funding decisions by the board over the past few years.

We have funded and completed the development of a new job placement system that will be run using the home office web server in the future. Rather than a service that is only provided around the time of the national conference in November, our intent is to make this a year-round core service provided to the DSI membership. This service will be operational this spring under the direction of Gerry Campbell, our new job placement coordinator. The Institute is deeply indebted to Gary Klein for his many years of dedicated service in this position and for his help in developing the new system.

Another significant accomplishment is the updating of the Institute's policies and procedures manual to include new guidelines for regional financial management. This information establishes a standard way

for the regions to manage their finances and work with the home office. The Institute is indebted to Richard Jenson for his work in developing these guidelines over the past few years.

Additional changes have been made to the national meeting format. These changes are intended to improve the opportunities for interaction among those who attend the conference. An opening reception and buffet lunch now replaces the formal breakfast and plenary speaker session that we have had in the past. These changes seemed to have been well received during this past conference in San Francisco.

More changes to the conference are being implemented by Tim Smunt, the program chair for the 2002 conference. Now you have the option of submitting a full paper for the conference or only an abstract. Full papers are refereed as in the past and are eligible for inclusion in the conference proceedings and best paper awards. Papers are now submitted electronically and most hard copy handling of papers has been eliminated. Scott Sampson's preference scheduling of papers represents another innovation that was introduced during the 2001 meeting and

will be further developed for the 2002 meeting. We may need to do some refinement in the process over the next few years, but great progress has been made over the past year due to board support of these initiatives and the great effort of Professor Smunt and the group putting together the 2002 conference.

Internationally, the Institute is progressing well. The 7th International Meeting of the Institute will be held in Shanghai, July 4-8, 2003. We are making great progress in the development of a Mexican Region. The 6th International Meeting held last July in Chihuahua was a wonderful opportunity to work with the leaders from that region.

I believe the Institute has made much progress during the past year, but certainly much will be done under the able leadership of Tom Jones, our next president. I want to sincerely thank all the members of the board and the general membership of DSI for your great support over the past year. I particularly want to thank Carol Latta for her guidance and patience with working with me over the past year.

I look forward to many more years of enjoying my membership in the Decision Sciences Institute. ■

F. Robert Jacobs

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